

Greetings from the New President

Salvete amicae!

I am excited to be writing my first words to you as president of WAMUN. The members of the new executive are looking forward to the coming year and are already planning next year's events. We are hoping to add a second lecture to the usual program at the end of February – something to help us get through the greyest time of the year.

As many of you already know, we voted at the AGM to cancel the plant sale for September 2007 because there was no one willing to chair the committee. A few members tried valiantly to rescue the sale, and I would like to thank Marjorie Evans, Elke Molgaard and Miriam Simpson for their efforts. It is very important to this year's executive – and, I am sure, to most of you – that this cancellation be merely a sabbatical and produce the effect that all sabbaticals are supposed to produce – rest and renewed enthusiasm. So don't toss those plants; nurture them for an extra year. And consider volunteering for the 2008 Plant Sale Committee!

You may remember that Eleanor Nesbitt had great trouble trying to put together a nominating committee this winter. As an experiment we have decided to nominate the committee chair now, so that the nominating committee can begin to search for candidates for next year's executive as soon as possible. Deborah Rehner has generously accepted the position of Chair of the Nominating Committee, and we all hope that by the time you read these words the rest of the committee will be in place.

One final note: you will be happy to learn that Karin Kahn is doing well enough to have been moved from the Health Sciences Centre to Escasoni. She is, at the time of writing, in Room 312 West. Please consider dropping in to see her if you are in the neighbourhood.

I hope that you all have a pleasant and productive summer!

Kathy Simonsen, President

kathryns@mun.ca 722-6339 (h), 737-8531(w)



Eleanor Nesbit and Kathy Simonsen at the Spring Luncheon.

Karen Herzberg Receives WAMUN Distinguished Service Pin

Outgoing President, Eleanor Nesbit, addressed the AGM as follows:

“It gives me great pleasure to announce that this year's recipient of the Distinguished Service Pin is Karen Herzberg. As most of you know, Karen has been an active member of WAMUN for years. She is a longstanding member of the fiction book group and is now acting as the leader of the afternoon session. She has been an active hiker, and contributed hours of work to the International Food Group, helped with the plant sale, has encouraged us to make donations to the campus food bank and to contribute recycling proceeds to the Scholarship Fund. Karen has worked several years on the CFUW book sale in which she is involved today. She has also taken all sorts of lovely photographs of WAMUN events for the Newsletter. No doubt I've left something out. Congratulations Karen.”



WAMUN Luncheon and Annual General Meeting

April 21, 2007, Junior Common Room, R. Gushue Hall

After a fine lunch was enjoyed by all, Bev Gardner, one of the Social Convenors, thanked the servers for their assistance and presented them with a gratuity.

1. Eleanor Nesbitt, president, also thanked the servers and welcomed the 49 members in attendance, 47 of whom were present for the luncheon as well. Then the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM) began.
2. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting April 8, 2006**

The minutes of the 2006 annual general meeting, held on April 8, 2006, were distributed by Margaret Dohan, secretary, who allowed several minutes for members to read them. Minutes were corrected to read under “Reports”:

 - the spelling of Deborah Rehner’s last name.
 - Marilyn MacDonald has resigned and Olga Broomfield-Richards will replace her.
 - Julia Mathieson moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected; Deborah Rehner seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
3. **Business Arising From the Minutes**

Tonya Bassler requested information about the outcome of a motion passed at the 2006 AGM, “that a letter be written to the president of MUN asking that the fee of \$60 for the rental of Gushue Hall be dropped for WAMUN”. Eleanor Nesbitt reported that the president himself has to pay for the use of Gushue Hall, so it was decided that it was not appropriate to pursue this. The Executive decided that the letter would not be written.
4. **Reports of 2006 – 2007 Activities**
 - 4.1 **President – Eleanor Nesbitt**

Eleanor Nesbitt reported that many of the activities were reported in the newsletter this year. She mentioned that the interest groups have changed and grown, with a new Scrabble group beginning this year. Eleanor reviewed the major activities of the year.
 - 4.2 **Membership Secretary – Miriam Simpson**

Miriam Simpson reported that there are 105 members (103 regular, 2 honorary – the spouses of the president and chancellor of MUN). She encouraged members to recruit new members.
 - 4.3 **Newsletter – Carolyn Hodych**

Carolyn Hodych was absent; therefore, no report was available at this time. Eleanor Nesbitt thanked Carolyn for doing a good job. Eleanor suggested that interest group heads send their reports to Carolyn, who will publish them in June’s newsletter.
 - 4.4 **Interest Group Reports**

Interest group reports were given by: Julia Mathieson (on behalf of both afternoon and evening fiction book groups); Annmari Tougui (non-fiction book group); Susan Murdey (coffee break group); Julia Mathieson on behalf of her and Elke Molgaard (CPR course); Deborah Rehner (discovery investment group); Deborah Rehner (hiking, etc. group); Susan Jackson (international food group); Joan Fuller (Scrabble group); and Karen Herzberg on behalf of Patricia Collins (Tuesday hiking group).
5. **Social Convenors**

Beverley Gardner reported on behalf of her and Annette Murphy. She encouraged members to recruit new members and bring them to the fall reception.
6. **Archives – Julia Mathieson**

Julia Mathieson reported that archival material is available at MUN. In answer to Margaret Michalak’s query if website backup discs could be forwarded to the archives, Julia said that this would be fine.
7. **Plant Sale Committee – Marjorie Evans**

Marjorie Evans thanked the committee and all members who contributed to the plant sale. The net profit was

WAMUN AGM Minutes continued

\$2,649 including proceeds from both the plant sale and the raffle.

8. Treasurer's Interim Statement – Susan Murdey

Susan Murdey presented a copy of her report to members. Susan indicated that final statements will not be reflected until approximately June, as some bills are outstanding. She reported that the account balance will be closer to \$1,500 than the \$1,270 reflected in her report. A typographical error was noted: the account balance March 31, 2006 should read 2007.

9. Scholarship Committee – Tonya Bassler

Tonya Bassler reported that the fund is healthy thanks to members' donations (\$1,200). She reported the possibility of expanding the number of scholarships and requested that any member with a suggestion should contact her or a committee member.

The MUN scholarship office pointed out that a change in wording of the description of the 'Mature Student Scholarship' was necessary to be consistent with the MUN scholarship policy. Tonya's report includes the change in wording for the MUN *Calendar*. WAMUN scholarships are now listed individually in the *Calendar*. Tonya proposed a motion to change the wording of the 'Mature Student Scholarship' description. Deborah Rehner moved to accept the motion. Sue Scott seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

10. Karen Herzberg thanked everyone who donated to the campus food bank. All interest groups donate to it except the International Food Group and Tonya Bassler suggested that this group could consider it next year.

11. Presentation of Distinguished Service Award

Eleanor Nesbitt presented the distinguished service pin to Karen Herzberg for all her work for WAMUN over the years, which Eleanor outlined.

12. Privacy Policy

Eleanor Nesbitt reported on the new MUN Privacy Policy. This fall, the membership form will include a statement that the mailing list is for members' private use only and not for general distribution. Eleanor mentioned that members who choose to donate to the scholarship fund will have an option to have their name published in the WAMUN newsletter although no amounts will be given, and this choice will be listed on the membership form. Eleanor reminded members who choose to donate to include a separate cheque for the donation rather than combining it with the membership fee cheque.

13. Standing Nominating Committee – Kathryn Simonsen

Kathryn Simonsen described the difficulty recruiting members to serve on the Executive and suggested having a nominating committee that could be formed now and would recruit people throughout the year. The main advantage would be that the committee would be established when the nominating period begins. The new nominating committee each year could carry over information such as who in the prior year said that they might be interested next year.

Marilyn Macdonald indicated that this would require a constitutional change and that the amendment must be circulated at the AGM. Marilyn suggested and Beverley Gardner agreed that it might be an idea to try it for a year before changing the constitution. Discussion followed. Beverley noted that Eleanor Nesbitt had done this alone this year and that the president should not be expected to do this. Deborah Rehner stated that the constitution stipulated that the president appoints a chair and that the chair forms a committee.

14. Executive 2007 – 2008

Eleanor Nesbitt asked for nominations from the floor. As there were none, she reviewed the slate of officers. She noted that the two social convenor positions are not filled. Beverley Gardner agreed to book the room for the fall reception, but someone else would need to organize it. Elke Molgaard suggested that various interest groups show their gratitude by taking responsibility for social events. Annette Murphy suggested that the hosting responsibility be

WAMUN AGM Minutes continued

rotated through the interest groups, meaning that any one group would have to host an event only once every several years, or that specific groups be responsible for specific events each year. Interest group leaders said that they would discuss the idea of hosting one of the social events throughout the year with their members. Deborah Rehner mentioned that there is a handbook which would assist anyone taking on the planning. Deborah suggested that if no one comes forward to plan the fall reception, we still hold the reception but without food.

15. Maire O'Dea moved that the president ask interest groups to consider the suggestion that they take responsibility for hosting the social events. Annmari Tougui seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion carried.
16. Julia Mathieson moved to accept the slate of officers as written. Susan Scott seconded it. Passed unanimously.
17. Eleanor Nesbitt called for a head of the plant sale. Tonya Bassler said that the scholarship fund is doing well and that members could take a break from having the plant sale this year. The fund has more than \$3,000 and it needs only \$2,000 this year. Tonya reminded members to keep donating to the fund in mind, and it does not necessarily have to be a large donation. Members supported the suggestion of no plant sale this year.
18. Adjournment
Deborah Rehner thanked the outgoing Executive, with particular thanks to Eleanor Nesbitt for having served as president for two terms, and to Tonya Bassler, who agreed to be next year's president-elect. Eleanor thanked the Executive, the interest groups, and all others who have made special efforts to keep WAMUN going. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Dohan, Secretary

NOTICE: The Executive recognizes that some changes may be required to the above minutes. Please make a

Outgoing President's Remarks

As outgoing president I would like to thank members of the outgoing and continuing Executive. They were all involved in making the year a success. I would also like to remind you and thank all of our members who put so much time and effort into all sorts of events and interest groups. Dozens of people work on the plant sale. Each of the interest groups has many people who put a lot of effort into making things run smoothly. It would be far too time-consuming to describe each activity but we must remember how important and valuable all these activities are in keeping WAMUN alive and vibrant. Thank you ladies.

Eleanor Nesbit, Past President



▶ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE WAMUN FALL RECEPTION** ◀

Date: Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2007

Location: To Be Announced












Time: 7 P.M.

Prize for the WAMUN member who brings the most guests!

Want to contact WAMUN? Executive and committee members and special interest group leaders are listed on the WAMUN website at www.mun.ca/wamun. Phone any of these people, e-mail wamun@mun.ca, or write to the following address:

WAMUN, Arts and Administration Building, Mail Room Box 130, Memorial University, P.O. Box 4200, St. John's, A1C 5S7

WAMUN 2007 Executive and Committee Chairs

President	Kathy Simonsen 722-6339/737-8531(w) kathryns@mun.ca	
Vice President	Tonya Bassler 753-3135/777-7326(w) gbassler@mun.ca	
Past-President	Eleanor Nesbitt 754-0355 enesbitt@mun.ca	
Secretary	Margaret Dohan 754-1245/758-2721 dnurse@mun.ca	
Treasurer	Susan Murdey 726-0428 murdey@nl.rogers.com	
Membership Committee	Annmari Tougui 726-5567 amtougui@nl.rogers.com	
Scholarship Committee	Linda Hensman 726-0233/777-6571(w) lhensman@mun.ca	
Social Committee	Vacant	
Archives	Julia Mathieson 722-3249 gmathieson@nl.rogers.com	
Webmaster	Margaret Michalak 579-5847/737-4419 (w) michalak@mun.ca	
Newsletter Editor	Carolyn Hodych 722-0795 chodych@nf.sympatico.ca	
NOTE: Since the AGM, Deborah Rehner has agreed to chair the Nominations Committee. She is now seeking others to serve on the committee. Those interested should contact Deborah at dbrehner@gmail.com		

Interim Financial Statement

Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland

Interim Statement March 31, 2007 - Revised 20 May 2007

Revenue

Memberships (103 x \$15)	\$1,545.00
Postage (Newsletter or Food group menus)	\$125.00
Plant sale and Raffle (inc. \$150 float)	\$2,853.25
Total	<u>\$4,523.25</u>

Expenses

Plant sale proceeds (to scholarship fund)	\$2,648.53
Float	\$150.00
Plant sale posters	\$54.72
Fall Reception	\$191.50
November talk (hire of room)	\$70.00
November talk (gift for speaker)	\$20.00
January coffee morning	\$59.85
Postage, printing, stationary etc	\$111.62
Bank charges (2 months)	\$1.90
Total	<u>\$3,308.12</u>

Account balance Sept 1 06	\$750.40
Interim increase in cash	\$1,215.13
Account balance March 31 07	<u>\$1,965.53</u>

Scholarship Fund (straight to separate account)

Personal donations (32)	\$1,270.00
Total	<u>\$1,270.00</u>

Susan Murdey, Treasurer

NOTE: The Audited Financial Statement will appear in a future issue of the newsletter.

WAMUN Annual Luncheon Photos



Kathy Lohner and Nadia Fam



Susan Scott and Joyce Cho



Clare Neville Smith and Annette Murphy



Claire Martin and Susan Jackson



Joan Hiller and Louise Dawe



Genny Gale and Leila Clase



Beverly Gardner and Carol Nesbit



Betty Wong and Sylvia Warkentin

Scholarship Committee Annual Report

The WAMUN scholarship program began in 1978 with one undergraduate scholarship. In 1985 WAMUN added graduate scholarships. WAMUN now awards eight scholarships annually. Including the 2006-2007 academic year, WAMUN has awarded 164 scholarships since the program's inception.

Each of the four undergraduate scholarships is valued at \$1,000; each of the four graduate scholarships is valued at \$1,200. But since the Office of Graduate Studies funds half of each graduate scholarship, WAMUN's outlay for each of them is only \$600. Thus, the annual cost to WAMUN of the four undergraduate scholarships is \$4,000 (4 x \$1,000) and the four graduate scholarships \$2,400 (4 x \$600) for a total annual outlay of \$6,400 from our scholarship fund.

These are our 2006-2007 winners:

Undergraduate (\$1,000) each):

Faculty/Staff	Elizabeth Mason (2 nd -time winner)	CBS
Undergraduate	Michael Burt	Gander
Single Parent	Kristen Hynes	Garnet
Mature Student	Jenna Foulds	Corner Brook

Graduate (\$1,200):

Master's Thesis Route	Erica Pritchett	Kinesiology
Master's All-Course Route	Shaina Goudie	History
PhD	Joy Fraser	Folklore
PhD	Sylvia Reitmanova	Community Health & Humanities

All scholarships, except the undergraduate one, must be specifically applied for. Of the eight scholarships, the Mature Student Scholarship is the only one limited to females. Also, aside from the faculty/staff and undergraduate scholarships, demonstration of financial need is a requirement.

The university defines financial need differently for each of the two levels of scholarships.

For an *undergraduate student*, financial need refers to the amount of student loan applied for in the same semester as the scholarship is applied for. That is, the larger the student loan needed **that semester** (not the total to date), the greater the student's "financial need." *Medical* students are, by the way, eligible for our undergraduate scholarships.

For a *graduate student*, a student loan is not part of the equation for determining financial need. Rather, "financial need" is defined by the amount of grants or scholarships the student brings to his/her graduate study program. In other words, the greater the amount of grants or scholarships, the less the "financial need."

At WAMUN's request the Scholarship Committee has asked the Office of Graduate Studies to award the graduate scholarships in a diversity of academic disciplines. For the past six years (2001-2006), our 24 graduate winners have been in these fields of study:

Anthropology	1	Biology	1
Community health/Medicine	2	Earth Sciences	1
Education	2	Engineering	1
Folklore	7	History	2
Kinesiology	1	Newfoundland Studies	1
Philosophy	1	Social Work	1
Women's Studies	3		

The Scholarship Committee during my three years as chair has been actively overseeing the welfare of the WAMUN Scholarship Fund. Here is a summary of Committee accomplishments and initiatives over the three-year period:

1. Established ongoing clear, informative communication among committee members and between members and pertinent university staff.

Scholarship Committee Annual Report continued

2. Recommended eliminating the Entrance Scholarship and replacing it with the Undergraduate Scholarship. This recommendation (and subsequent adoption) was made after discussions with university staff about current student needs.
3. Recommended graduate scholarship winners be announced in the fall semester, but the funds not be awarded till winter semester, when they will have successfully completed their first semesters of study. This was adopted.
4. Suggested to the Executive that it create an information sheet in brochure/pamphlet form highlighting WAMUN's program of activities and interest groups plus WAMUN's concern for university students as shown by its worthwhile projects of eight scholarships and regular Campus Food Bank donations.
5. Worked tirelessly to (a) understand and convey to others every ramification of the scholarship details; and (b) monitor the accurate application of scholarship criteria.
6. Annually proofed the MUN *Calendar* for accuracy of WAMUN Scholarship information; suggested presentation, clarity, and format changes.
7. Updated, as needed, the scholarship information on the WAMUN web page.
8. Regularly sent photos and notices to various media, including the *Telegram*, *MUN Gazette*, *MUN Pensioners*, *ComMUNicator*, and *MUN Newsline*.
9. Recommended raising each undergraduate scholarship from \$900 to \$1,000. This was adopted.
10. Recommended eliminating the financial need component in the faculty/staff and undergraduate scholarships. This was adopted.
11. Recommended amending the constitution to add to the committee's duties "monitor the administration of the scholarship program and ensure adherence to established criteria." This was adopted.
12. Held two or more committee meetings per year, sometimes with university staff.
13. Encouraged the Executive to invite scholarship winners to a general meeting so members could meet them.
14. Recommended to the Executive that individual members be encouraged to donate to the Scholarship Fund and receive tax receipts. This was adopted and the information is now on the membership form.
15. Wrote thank-you notes to individual members who made fund donations in 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.
16. Recommended to the Executive that member donors be acknowledged (by name, not amount) in the *WAMUN Newsletter*.
17. Sent congratulatory certificates to all scholarship winners, in addition to the usual letters, and tried to arrange photos of the winners, though not always with success.
18. At the request of the Office of Scholarships and Awards, reviewed the terms of the Mature Student Scholarship and consequently now recommend to the membership that the wording be changed to the following:

This scholarship, valued at \$1,000, is awarded annually from funds donated by the Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland. It is restricted to women enrolled in full-time undergraduate studies at Memorial University of Newfoundland who are entering or returning, having been away from full-time study for a period of three years or more. They must have been residents of Newfoundland or Labrador for at least a year prior to enrolling. This scholarship will be awarded in winter semester based on fall semester results in which a minimum average of 75 per cent will be required. Financial need will be considered. The scholarship will be awarded by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships and Financial Aid. A special application is required and may be obtained from the Scholarships and Awards Office, Room 4018, University Centre or by calling (709) 737-3956.

Attached is the Committee's financial report based on the most recent information available on the state of our fund. However, please note we will be providing an amended report, as in past years, when the final figures for the fiscal year ending Mar. 31, 2007 are available.

Any analysis of our Scholarship Fund finances has to bear in mind that it is divided into two university-mandated parts: the so-called restricted and unrestricted portions. The restricted portion is the endowment amount. It is solely for income-producing growth and may not be drawn upon at WAMUN's discretion for scholarship payout. On the other hand, the unrestricted portion may be drawn upon at WAMUN's discretion for scholarship payout. **The university requires that a two-year scholarship payout be maintained in the latter.** Both portions earn income at the same rate. For the past three years WAMUN has requested that all fund income—whether gifts or interest—be deposited in the unrestricted portion.

Scholarship Committee Annual Report continued

donations from individual members each year. Assuming another quarter-year's interest income yet to be deposited, our fund total will likely exceed \$120,000. This would be a 4.4 per cent increase over the past year.

Since this is my final year as committee chair, I would like to express my deepest thanks to the wonderful dedication and co-operative teamwork of the committee members. They have spent many hours looking after the best interests of the WAMUN Scholarship Fund. Linda Hensman has offered to chair the committee next year and all Committee members are willing to continue so I'm confident the interests of the WAMUN Scholarship Fund will be well looked after.



(Clockwise L-R) Tonya Bassler, Linda Hensman, Marilyn Macdonald, Louise Dawe and Susan Murdey.



Tonya Bassler

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya Bassler, Chair
and WAMUN Scholarship Committee members:
Louise Dawe
Linda Hensman
Marilyn Macdonald

Annual Report on Plant Sale and Raffle held Sept. 22, 2006

Report to WAMUN AGM , Apr. 21, 2007

For our 10th annual plant sale, we moved to the lobby of the INCO Innovation Centre instead of the Arts Atrium used in previous years. We found it was a bigger, brighter space and, though there may have been fewer people walking by on their way elsewhere, we didn't lack customers. Not even the horrible weather kept people away.

We had lots of beautiful plants of all sizes to sell and many volunteers providing advice and other help to customers. Thank you all. Special thanks to the committee who worked so hard providing publicity and setting everything up the night before. A few even wore one of our outrageous hats in other locations for a while to draw attention to our ongoing sale.

In conjunction with the plant sale we sold raffle tickets on four baskets of assorted goods. A lot of work by just a couple of committee members went into collecting those donations from businesses and individuals, and them persuading people to buy tickets.

As a result of everyone's contributions of plants, time, etc. we netted a total of \$2,669 - \$2,221 from plants plus \$502 from the raffle minus \$54 spent on printing posters. So we all enjoyed another successful sale and raffle contributing to the scholarship fund.

Marjorie Evans



NOTE: Anyone interested in helping to organize a 2008 Plant Sale should contact Elke Molgaard (726-0719) or Miriam Simpson (754-9661).

Scholarship Committee Annual Report continued

**WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL REPORT (2006-2007) and PROJECTIONS (2007-2008)
21 April 2007**

2-YEAR COMPARISON IN BRIEF

As of	31 March 2006	31 March 2007 (est.)
Total balance in Fund	\$ 114,918.19	\$ 118,773.35
Revenue received during year	13,101.79	10,255.16
Expenses paid during year	6,000.00	6,400.00

DETAILS: 2006-2007

As of 31 March 2006:

Restricted portion of Fund	\$ 98,007.17
Unrestricted portion of Fund	16,911.03
Total Fund balance beginning 1 April 2006	\$ 114,918.19

ESTIMATED as of 31 March 2007:

Restricted portion	\$ 98,007.17
Unrestricted portion X	20,766.18
Total estimated Fund balance 31 March 2007	\$ 118,773.35

Account Activity: 1 April 2006-31 March 2007

Beginning balance	\$ 114,918.19
Less payouts	
4 Graduate scholarships @ \$600	\$2,400.00
4 Undergr. scholarships @ \$1,000	\$4,000.00
Balance	(6,400.00)
	108,518.19
+ Deposits	
Donations	
Transfer	\$1,700.00
Raffle-April	50.00
Plants/raffle	2,648.53
32 members	1,270.00
	\$5,668.53
Interest (till 31/12/06) XX	4,586.63
Estimated balance	\$ 118,773.35

X Minimum 2-yr balance for scholarship payout must be maintained.
XX Interest for January-March 2007 still to be included.

Membership Annual Report

This has been a more than usually successful membership year and we end our 2006-2007 with 105 members: 103 "regular" members plus our honorary members, the spouses of the chancellor and the president.

There has been a high level of co-operation with Memorial's Human Resources and Faculty Relations Departments; both of them have enclosed WAMUN welcoming information for new hires and made time for presentations at orientation sessions. As always our own members have been active in recruiting! Many thanks to all who have helped in membership efforts this year.

Miriam Simpson



Newsletter Editor's Annual Report

Four newsletters were produced during 2006-2007, including this one. Each issue was distributed as follows: 20 were mailed to members' home addresses, 38 (including 15 to the Board of Regents and one to the Centre for Newfoundland Studies) were distributed by university mail, and 62 were e-mailed to individual members. The latest issue is always available on www.mun.ca/wamun.

Contents for each newsletter has largely been contributed by the executive and interest group convenors. Members

also submit other information of interest and are very good about sharing photos from WAMUN activities and events.

All such input is very warmly received. The newsletter is richer because of your thoughtful and articulate contributions!

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Hodych, Newsletter Editor

WAMUN Archive Annual Report

For the last few years, I have been collecting material that will eventually go to the archive at MUN. I have several years-worth of documents highlighting WAMUN activities and will, in the near future, begin the process of removing staples and paper clips and arranging it chronologically for the move to MUN.

The material is housed at the Centre for Newfoundland Studies, QEII Library, and is available to WAMUN members for research if desired. Please keep the material coming.

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Mathieson, WAMUN Archivist, April 2007



Julia Mathieson and Carol Nesbit at the AGM.

Coffee Break Group Annual Report

We have had a very successful year with good attendance all fall and winter. We were lucky to avoid any bad weather so no snow days had to be called. Between 10 and 20 members usually drop in during the morning.

We have welcomed several new faces, both new arrivals and long time members who now have more time during the day. Conversation has been lively (noisy!!) and the refreshments much enjoyed.

We hope to continue until mid August and then break until after Fall Reception. Numbers are smaller during the summer but enough people are still in town. It is lovely to see members' gardens too.

If anyone wishes to be added to my e-mail list (or to be phoned), please call me at 726-0428

Susan Murdey

Fiction Book Groups Annual Report

I am happy to make this report for both Fiction Book Groups. One group meets of an evening the other in the afternoon. Both groups have new members this year which is most pleasing. The more opinions, the better the discussion. The groups meet from September to June reading one book per month. Both read the same book which enables a member to attend either session.

The books we have read this year are: *Small Island* by Andrea Levy, *Saturday* by Ian McEwan, *Russlander* by Sandra Birdsell, *Three Day Road* by Joseph Boyden, *The Red Queen* by

Margaret Drabble, *Jane Austen in Boca* by Paula Morantz Cohen, *Akhenaten: Dweller in Truth* by Naquib Mahfouz, and *Gilead* by Marilyn Robinson

In June we will have our pot luck supper and selection of books for the 2007-08 reading year. That is always a fun meeting and new members are welcome.

Respectfully submitted;
Karen Herzberg, afternoon group convener
Julia Mathieson, evening group convener

WAMUN Annual Luncheon Photos



Joan Fuller and Janet Fairly



Marjorie Evans and Genny Gale



Olga Broomfield-Richards and Ingrid Pardoe



Ruth Noel and Tonya Bassler



Mary Varghese and Karen Lippold



Deborah Rehner



Lynda Younghusband

WAMUN Annual Luncheon Photos



Mercy Stephens and Susan Murdey



Elfie Boehm and Julita Muzychka



Annmari Tougui, Maire O'Dea and Elke Molgaard



Joan Fuller and Elfi Boehm



Ella Noel and Shirley Cooper



Doreen Ross and Julia Mathieson

Special Interest Groups

Tuesday Morning Hiking Group

The Tuesday morning hiking group has resumed after a winter break. On April 3, six of us, Tonya Bassler, Pat Rivers, Bev Gardner, Sylvia Warkentin, Pat Collins and Karen Herzberg along with Boomer met at Government House. We walked through the grounds, around the area and on to Duckworth Street. We stopped to have coffee at Chatters Cafe where Karen took a photo of the happy hikers. It was a cheery outing but we did not walk as far as we often do.

We met again on April 17 and did a crazy residential cross Canada walk. Genny Gale, Mercy Stephen and Pat Collins set forth from Vancouver, walked to Quebec, up to Winnipeg, along to Toronto, down to Edmonton, back up through Toronto, along Jasper, on to Halifax (along Mercer's Drive!!) and down to Ottawa and through Parliament and back to Halifax. All that in less than an hour! We then made our way to the corner of Newfoundland Drive and Portugal Cove where we ran into Sylvia. She had been driving all over Canada looking for us, thinking the walk began at 10 instead of 9:30! Anyway, we all enjoyed a social time at Tim's.

The convenor will do a bit more globe trotting but does return here at the end of April. We hope that the snow will have melted by then and that we can hike on real trails again in May and June.

Pat Collins, patriciacollins@nl.rogers.com, 754 0507



(L - R) Sylvia Warkentin, Pat Collins, Bev Gardner, Pat Rivers, and Tonya Bassler relax after their walk.

Members with ideas for new interest groups should contact WAMUN executive for information on getting started. Queries have already been received about an evening scrabble group and a group for women with young children.

All interest groups are asked to keep WAMUN Executive aware of group policies and meeting times.

Support for Campus Food Bank

Although most WAMUN activities are over until next September, the Campus Food Bank continues to operate. Anyone wishing to donate food items can take them directly to the food bank in Corte Real, near Burton's Pond on the MUN campus. Items such as peanut butter, chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, canned milk, canned fruit, and Kraft Dinner (or similar macaroni and cheese dinners) are always in demand.

Thanks to all the members and interest groups that collect food items during the year.

Recycling for WAMUN Scholarships

Even though summer is coming and everyone will be concentrating on making the most of the warm weather, recycling goes on at any of the following Evergreen Recycling locations*. We hope people will continue to donate the proceeds to the WAMUN Scholarship Fund. Simply the depot employee counting your items to complete a blue credit slip for your signature. A separate receipt for your files can be obtained at the refund desk, if desired. Thanks very much for your continued contributions.

For more information on how to donate your recycling proceeds contact:
Marilyn MacDonald, m_macdonald17@hotmail.com 726-3134.

*Mill Lane Enterprises, 807 Water Street (777-3400), Cowan Avenue at Waterford Bridge Road (777-3832) and Regatta Plaza Building, 92 Elizabeth Avenue (777-3382).

Donna Jeffrey Receives Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award

Hon. Monte Solberg: "... we are here today, ladies and gentlemen, to recognize the accomplishments of Donna Jeffrey and Daniel Highway. In St. John's, Donna Jeffrey has worked with immigrants and refugees for over 30 years. She has affected the lives of many people and she has helped an entire community respond with greater understanding to newcomers so that they can integrate more readily in the Canadian life.

As a former minister of Citizenship and Immigration, I just want to say how much I appreciate the work that Donna has done. I have actually had the opportunity to meet Donna a couple of times before and we discovered the last time that we met in St. John's that we actually share the same birth date. So we are twins. But I do appreciate the work that Donna does and I just have to say that for me, it is always inspiring, both as minister of Citizenship and Immigration and in my new role, to go out and see the work that is done at the field level by people who are committed



Minister Solberg with (L-R) Mr. Pierre Panet-Raymond, grandson of Thérèse Casgrain, Ms. Michèle Nadeau-Souby, granddaughter of Thérèse Casgrain, Mr. Daniel Highway, award recipient, Ms. Donna Jeffrey, award recipient, Mr. Robert Nadeau, grandson of Thérèse Casgrain, and Ms. Marlene Deboisbriand, President of Volunteer Canada at the 2007 Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award Ceremony.

not because they are going to make a bunch of money doing what they do, but simply because they care and they want to make a difference and I can tell you it is - it is always touching to me and I just deeply appreciate the work that you do.

Donna continues to work with local employers so that refugees and immigrants benefit from job training, apprenticeships and internships. Miss Jeffrey has worked towards ensuring local schools, meet the learning needs of refugee and immigrant children. She has also raised the profile of the plight of many refugee families, I know that first hand.

One of Donna's many supporters, Alfred Koiney (ph.), has said about Donna, quote, 'She gave my family hope and has helped to put a smile back on our faces.' Mr. Koiney is now a social worker and he credits you, Donna, for giving him inspiration and the tools that helped him to succeed and how can you ever put a price tag and a value on hope?"

"... Donna Jeffrey and Daniel Highway are truly exemplary. In total, 45 per cent of Canada's population volunteer in one way or another as Marlene pointed out. It is through such efforts and work that we can truly aspire to a better Canada with stronger and safer communities and this government does support that. Surprisingly today, more than half of non-profit and volunteer revenue comes from government. Only about a tenth comes from philanthropy. It was a surprise to me at least to learn that and this government does want to encourage more charitable giving to help build the strength of the volunteer sector here in Canada and one way that we have done that is recently, we have

moved in a couple of successive budgets to remove the capital gains exemptions on gifts of registered securities; the result has been that charitable giving has gone through the roof and I'm excited about that.

This government does understand that Canada's greatness is played out every day through local organizations and volunteers like Donna and Daniel who just want to help and want to give people who need help all the tools that they need to succeed and we are pleased and honoured to be able to provide some support to help make that happen."

"One program, ladies and gentlemen, many results. We believe that these

programs do contribute to the vitality of a great country and I'm certain that each one of you could make a long list of the important role that volunteers and volunteer organizations play in your own community."

"... what a pleasure for me to be here today as minister, to be with Donna and Daniel and let me offer on behalf of my ministry, heartfelt congratulations for what you have done. Also as a grateful citizen of this country, let me say thank you for the work that you do. You touch the lives of people very deeply, you make a difference that will mark their lives for ever and you certainly inspire all of us in this room and again we thank you very much for what you have done."

This article consists of excerpts from Minister Solberg's speech. His entire address can be found at www.montesolberg.ca/EN/3101/53518